

Trades Advisory Issues  
April 15, 2005

Include type of material required for installation on drawings.

Add blow-off valve to drawings and add a blow-off valve on strainer specs. Discussion included necessity and importance of strainers varies according to locations.

Are nipples and caps required on backflows? Inconsistent answers received.

According to ABI when a RP is obsolete and has to be changed the line from the meter to the box has to be upgraded. According to cross connections, the line from meter to RPB has to be copper and they are not concerned with "what cannot be seen". Conflicting information being given.

PVC should be considered compliant on backflow installation or at a minimum PVC previously approved should be grandfathered into compliance. Member does not understand MWS concern because this is a customer liability. Suggestions to give requirements for new installations but allow existing installations that can be repaired etc to be grandfathered due to past approval.

Codes and MWS do not agree on material requirements and this needs to be addressed.

Specifications and drawing for acceptable inside installation of RPB are suggested.

MWS should require certification for repair or replacement of backflows with plumber required to fax a test report to MWS. Perception is that MWS is being redundant and could save money by allowing certified testing etc. cost of which would be absorbed by customer.

Test sheets are still not clear and difficult to read.

Make the bid process easier by including requirements for repairs on the inspection sheet. This would promote consistency.

Meter testers are requiring customers to install test-tees on meters that will not be acceptable anyway. IE: Hermitage complex has Arlington meter. It is impossible to had test tees....why not just tell them they have to replace the meter.

There is continuing difficulty in reaching cross connection. It was stated that 4562 should roll to 4600. Customer should select option 5 and the phone representative can send a service order to Barbara. It was stated that this is not happening. Members requested an updated listing of department phone numbers.